

Istanbul, 9-10. April 2015

Implementation of Climate Watch Advisories dissemination via RCC web.

Noting that some recent catastrophic flooding events in the region have clearly shown the need of enhanced information exchanges in order to better anticipate such floods and knowing that the majority of large rivers are in trans-boundary catchments;

Recognizing that the WMO can play a central role in building NMHSs capacities for the development, coordination and the dissemination of such information and warning, in particular that NMHSs in the WMO Regional Association VI (Europe) could benefit from the activities of the Working Group on Climate and Hydrology (WG CH), especially the Task Team on Regional Climate Centres and Regional Climate Outlook Forum (TT-RCC-RCOF), along with the task team on Climate Watch systems (TT-CWS) and the Task Team on Hydrological Modelling, Forecasting and Warning (TT-HMFW);

Considering the experience gained so far by the RCC Network with the dissemination of Climate Watch Advisories (CWA) by e-mail;

Having identified the needs, concerns and recommendations of the NMHSs with respect to the dissemination of CWAs via the RCC web site (see Annex I "Summary of the survey on the RCC Network dissemination of Climate Watch Advisories").

The WG- CH proposes for its adoption by the RA VI MG:

- To implement pre-operationally the distribution of CWAs through the existing RCC network websites.
- To distribute the advisories through a password protected part of the existing RCC websites ensuring access only for NMHSs nominated focal points.
- To facilitate through this dissemination service the work of NMHSs which will assume the responsibility for dissemination and delivery of additional advisories at national level.
- To continue the distribution to designated national focal points of CWAs via email co-existing with the here proposed distribution via the RCC website.
- To make the requested arrangements with the RCC network ensuring that the website should contain all necessary information related to the climate watch, such as: status of climate watch (activity status, initial/update/termination status), valid time period, countries concerned, etc.
- To start a pilot project with NMHSs in order to test and improve the CWAs services

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Attachment

Summary of the survey on the RCC Network dissemination of Climate Watch Advisories

In response to the letter dated 25 August 2014 from the President of RA VI to the Permanent Representatives to identify opinions on appropriate conditions for Climate Watch Advisories (CWA) dissemination via RCC web, the following conclusions can be drawn from the 17 answers so far received.

Question 1

Do you have any objection in disseminating climate watch advisories via the web?

Generally, there is no objection to the dissemination of CWA via web, provided that the recipients of such advisories are NMHSs. In order to ensure that CWA generated by the RCC Network is accessed only by NMHSs, most responses recommended a password protected website for the distribution of advisories. Also CWA should follow a set of clear criteria preventing overlaps with weather alarms. A guidance document should be elaborated and made available at national and regional levels.

Question 2

Do you have experience in such websites?

Most experiences were reported by NMHSs with RCC responsibilities. Meteoalarm service was mentioned in some responses due to its possible similarity with CWA.

Question 3

Can you recommend a public website or a website dedicated only for users with password access?

Apart from the already mentioned Meteoalarm site (www.meteoalarm.eu) a few other websites were recommended such as:

<https://linetview.nowcast.de>

http://cib.knmi.nl/mediawiki/index.php/Central_European_flooding_2013

<http://emcc.mgm.gov.tr>

Question 4

Do you have any other idea or suggestion you would like to share on this matter?

- No suppression of the email notification service of CWAs to focal points working in parallel with website distribution..
- Parcel out the warning area in more regions.
- Link CWA on the web with existing platforms as e.g. meteoalarm (EU-level) or national ones.